Separately, the Health Ministry has instructed the Port Health Authorities and other concerned for compulsory testing of all food articles.

Divesting PDS of Kerosene

154. SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to stop allocating Kerosene to ration-card holders with LPG-Double-cylinder connection, to check adulteration of Kerosene with petrol and diesel and to streamline its distribution;

(b) if so, the quantum of Kerosene likely to be saved and divested from Public Distribution System thereby; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken to ensure that genuine consumers of Kerosene, without LPG connections, are not deprived of their supplies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) to (c) Kerosene is an allocated product and the annual allocation is made by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to various States/Uts. The distribution of kerosene and its monitoring within the State is the responsibility of the concerned State Government. As PDS kerosene and LPG are subsidised Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has insisted upon the State Governments to identify the Ration Card Holders having LPG connections and to discontinue the supply of kerosene to them under PDS.